

As the press remains a significant influence on the views of the public and the behaviour of politicians, it is important that some form of independent regulation is in place in this country.

The press is controlled by a very small number of businesses and it is important that they are not allowed to act in any way they wish without regulation. There must be a mechanism to allow complaints about press behaviour to be investigated and the companies to be penalised if they have not behaved properly. The current legal protections are not financially accessible to most members of the public and the press are generally able to use their financial strength to exhaust any legal challenges brought against them. Clearly this is not the way the legal system is intended to operate in a democratic country.

The Leveson report was a very considered report and the findings were accepted by parliament. It is essential that the recommendations on press regulation are implemented. As many major press companies have not accepted voluntary regulation after a lengthy period of time, the report recommendations to impose statutory regulation must now be carried out in my opinion.

Regards,

Malcolm Days